

REMARKS

In the Office Action, Claims 1-12, which are the pending claims, were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The Office Action also rejected Claims 1-9, 11 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,043,024 to Dinsmore et al. and again rejected Claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Dinsmore et al.

Claim 1 has been amended. No new subject matter is added.

In regard to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, the Office Action indicated that “the limitation ‘determining whether key update assignment that transmits these node keys in different mode according to the change of a UE’ in lines 14-15 of claim 1 does not precisely state what is to be determined and the correlation between update assignment and the keys in different mode.” (Office Action, page 2.)

Claim 1, which is the only pending independent claim, has been amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

In regard to the 35 U.S.C. §102 (e) rejection, Claim 1 recites checking for key update assignment according to a change of a UE; and applying key update assignment that transmits the node key in different modes according to the change of a UE. In contrast, the “self-repairing” groups taught by Dinsmore et al. provide “that each of its members [...] independently update the shared interior node key.” (Dinsmore et al., Col 5, lines 2-5.)

Dinsmore et al. teaches that nodes at each level have their own unique key and also know the key for its parent node, allowing each user to “therefore know[...] one key per level of hierarchical tree 10 on the way to the root node A.” (Dinsmore et al., Col. 2, lines 3-7.) To the contrary, the key update assignment of the present invention transmits the node key in different modes according to the change of a UE. Dinsmore et al. fails to disclose at least this recitation and the rejection must accordingly be withdrawn.

In view of the preceding remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims herein, namely Claims 1-12, are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, it is requested that Examiner contact Applicant's attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul J. Farrell", written over a horizontal line.

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